



Atty. Dkt. No. 017700-0143

2625
\$
#12
447

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yukihiro KOMATSU

Title: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS, IMAGE PROCESSING
METHOD AND VISUAL INSPECTION SYSTEM

Appl. No.: 09/672,901

Filing Date: 09/29/2000

Examiner: A. Carter

Art Unit: 2625

RECEIVED

APR 22 2004

Technology Center 2600

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

04/20/2004 YPOLITE1 00000076 09672901

01 FC:1806

180.00 OP



TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(c), before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

RECEIVED

APR 22 2004

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Technology Center 2600

Document D1 is the European counterpart of Document D5. The foregoing documents were cited in Applicant's corresponding European application to provide background information required by the examiner. An English translation of each of the foreign-language documents is not readily available. However, the absence of such translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language documents (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609). English language abstracts are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

FEE

A fee in connection with submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 CFR §1.97(c) in the amount of \$180.00 in accordance with 37 CFR §1.17(p) is attached.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a

check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 19, 2004

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP

Customer Number: 22428

Telephone: (202) 672-5485

Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

By Aaron C. Chatterjee
for William T. Ellis Reg # 41,398
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 26,874